

REMARKS

Claim 10 is amended to correct claim dependency. Claims 1, 11, 19, and 23 are amended to explicitly recite that managed objects in a database are objects of a wireless communication network. These amendments are supported at page 1, lines 6-24 of the application. No new matter is added.

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 11, 19, and 23 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,796,951 to Hamner, *et al* ("Hamner") in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,192,365 to Draper *et al*. ("Draper"). To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. Without conceding that the Examiner has established either a legally sufficient motivation to modify Hamner and Draper, or a reasonable expectation of success in making such modification, the combination does not teach or suggest all the limitations of claims 1, 11, 19, or 23. Accordingly, these claims define patentable nonobviousness over the art of record.

Hamner discloses a method of managing a computer network (Abstract, lines 1-2) by managing a database representing a network map. Abstract, lines 8-9. Hamner does not disclose managing a wireless communication network. As the Examiner accurately observed, Hamner does not disclose storing historical configuration data in a database as a collection of changed objects.

The Examiner cited Draper for such disclosure. Draper discloses a method of managing a transaction log wherein updates to the log represent operations performed on a database replica in a network of disconnectable computers. Abstract, lines 1-4. Draper does not disclose maintaining information related to a wireless communication network. Accordingly, the

combination of Hamner and Draper fails to teach or suggest the wireless network limitation of claims 1, 11, 19, or 23, as amended herein. For at least this reason, the claims define patentably over the art of record.

Additionally, applicant traverses the assertion that Draper teaches storing historical network configuration data as a collection of changed objects, as recited in Applicant's claims. Draper addresses a network of "disconnectable" computers – that is, computers that are only sporadically connected to the network, and on which data may change when the computer is disconnected from the network, thus requiring synchronization whenever a computer is a re-connected. Draper maintains a transaction log of operations, compresses the transaction log based on update semantics to remove redundant/inconsistent updates, and uses decompressed transaction log for transaction synchronization. col. 2, lines 23-63.

Draper additionally discloses a database of objects:

A hierarchical log database representing at least a portion of the transaction log assists log management. The log database contains objects corresponding to the updates and transactions in the specified portion of the transaction log. The specified portion of the transaction log may be the entire log, or a smaller portion that only includes recent transactions. The remainder of the transaction log is represented by a compressed linearly accessed log.

Transactions and updates are appended to the log by inserting corresponding objects into the log database. The log database includes an unreplicated attribute or other update history structure. The update history structure is accessed to identify any earlier update referencing an object in the target database that is also referenced by an update in the appended transaction.

col. 3, lines 1-15 (emphasis added). Objects in the log database do not represent the detachable computers or any other logical or physical element of the network – the objects correspond to the updates and transactions of the transaction log (which itself is merely a list of operations performed on computers). Draper states this another way in the second paragraph quoted above, "Transactions and updates are appended to the log by inserting corresponding objects into the log database." Draper's database objects are explicitly equated to transactions

and updates – actions performed on computers. The objects do not represent network entities, and the information stored in an object is not a prior configuration of a network entity.

Claim 1 recites, “storing historical configuration data representing past configurations of said wireless communication network in said database as a collection of changed objects, wherein each changed object represents a past configuration of one of said managed objects that has been changed.” Managed objects are explicitly defined at page 1, lines 14-22:

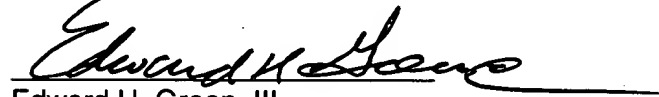
A managed object is an abstract representation of a logical or physical resource that needs to be monitored and controlled by the system operator. A managed object is defined in terms of its attributes, operations that can be performed on the managed object, the notifications it can send, and its relationship to other managed objects. Examples of managed objects in a wireless communication network include a site, a cell or sector, a channel, a base station controller, a transceiver group, a transceiver, a transmitter, and a receiver. Each managed object has attributes that can be configured by the system operator. For example, attributes of a cell that can be configured by the system operator include its frequency and direction.

The claimed managed objects are wireless communication network resources, such as a site, cell, channel, transceiver, or the like. Claim 1 recites storing a collection of changed objects, “wherein each changed object represents a past configuration of one of said managed objects that has been changed.” Draper’s log database objects correspond only to updates and transactions in the transaction log. Draper does not teach or suggest storing past configurations of managed objects that represent actual network entities.

The combination of Hamner and Draper fails to teach or suggest storing historical configuration data representing past configurations of a wireless communication network in a database as a collection of changed objects, wherein each changed object represents a past configuration of one of the managed objects that has been changed. For at least this reason, claims 1, 11, 19, and 23 define patentably over the art of record. As each dependent claim includes all limitations of its parent claim(s), all pending claims are patentably nonobvious. Prompt allowance of all pending claims is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Edward H. Green, III", written over a horizontal line.

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